

a logical connection device coupled between the service computers and the network client computers and configured to create logical broadcast domains among the network services and the network client computers, wherein each logical broadcast domain comprises a logical grouping of selected network services and selected network client computers, and

at least two routing devices each implementing a single static route policy that governs flow of traffic between the network services and the network client computers and prevents unauthorized access to the computer network, wherein each of the routing devices provides independent routing to the network services.

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10. (Amended) A method for use in providing network services via a computer network to multiple network client computers, the method comprising:

allowing the network client computers to access the network services via one or more connection devices in the computer network,

creating logical broadcast domains among the network services and the network client computers, wherein each logical broadcast domain comprises a logical grouping of selected network services and selected client computers, and

requiring all traffic within the network services to pass through routing devices that each implement a single static route policy to prevent unauthorized access, and

requiring all traffic between the network services and the network client computers to pass through at least two routing devices that each implement a single static route policy.

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22. (Amended) A method for use in providing a network service to multiple network client computers via a computer network, the method comprising:

requiring all traffic between the computer network and each of the network client computers to pass through a routing device,

creating logical broadcast domains among the network services and the network client computers,

requiring all traffic between the network service and the network client computers to pass through a routing device,

applying a static route policy to govern the flow of traffic between the network services and the network client computers, and

storing the static route policy with a route table in the routing device.

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Please add the following new claims.

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--25. (New) The computer network of claim 1, wherein the static route policy is defined by a static route table.

26. (New) The computer network of claim 1, wherein the network client computers belong to multiple logical broadcast domains.

27. (New) The computer network of claim 1, wherein the logical broadcast domains allow communication between network client computers internally within a switch device.

28. (New) The computer network of claim 1, wherein the logical broadcast domains allow communication between network client computers externally through the routing computer.

29. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the static route policy is defined by a static route table.